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MAR 24 2000

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS AND MINING

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March 23, 2000

Mr. Ed Phillips, Sheriff
Millard County
Star Route Box 50
Fillmore, Utah 84631

Dear Mr. Phillips,

Thank you for your letter of March 20, 2000. I will be in the area next week and arrange a mutually convenient time to meet with you.

For many months we have been dealing **directly** with Ms. Sally Wisely, Director, State of Utah, Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, 324 South State Street Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, **801-539-4011** and Mr. Attorney John Steiger, Acting Field Solicitor, for the Department of Interior, Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138, **801 524-5677 Ex. 233**

It is indeed surprising to us, and to attorney Steiger, that Ms. Wysong has taken it upon herself, **outside any legal authority**, to authorize these egregious acts.

As you know, claimants have an irrevocable possessory right to claims, providing they are in compliance with BLM regulations. We are, and have been. The law is clear.

Additionally, the BLM has a cooperative agreement with DOGM, and as I stated in my correspondence to you dated March 14, 2000, **they have no record of a permit being granted to mine on our claims**. A serious violation of a Federal and State **established** working agreement.

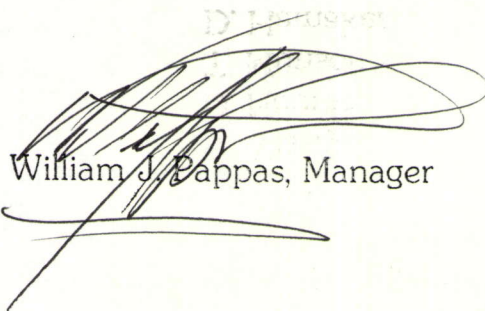
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Attorney Steiger has been extremely helpful concerning our situation, and we have finally come to a workable solution. However, these illegal acts by Ms. Wysong, will now have reverberations, that may be, at this time, incalculable.

Naturally any funds collected by the BLM from these illegal miners will be returned to us with interest, as will all funds received by the illegal miner, selling our stone to suppliers. We are contacting the Mine Safety and Health Administration for the purpose of determining if these illegal miners are in compliance. We also are assuming that Ms. Wysong, has posted a bond for her personal miners. We will want to see reclamation contract these miners executed.

Mr. Phillips, this is a serious situation, and will not be tolerated. The facts will speak for themselves. Upon my arrival, I will call for an appointment.

Sincerely,



William J. Pappas, Manager

cc: Office, Senator Bob Bennett
D. Gilbert Athay
J. Steiger
S. Wisely
D. Nourse
T. Munson
D. Hamaker

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